

25th January 1928]

A.—(a) to (c) No special grant was sanctioned for the repair of the roads. The Government have no information on the other points referred to in the question. They have called for it.

Proposed Rural Development Fund.

* 1489 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether district boards have so far replied to the letter of the Government asking for their opinion about the proposed Rural Development Fund;

(b) what is the general tenor of the replies so far received; and

(c) whether the Government have come to any decision about the matter?

A.—(a) Replies have been received from the following districts:—

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|--------------------|---------------------|
| (1) Anantapur. | (9) Kurnool. |
| (2) South Arcot. | (10) Malabar. |
| (3) Chingleput. | (11) Nellore. |
| (4) Chittoor. | (12) Nilgiris, the. |
| (5) Coimbatore | (13) Ramnad. |
| (6) Cuddapah. | (14) Salem. |
| (7) West Godavari. | (15) Tinnevely. |
| (8) Guntur. | (16) Vizagapatam. |

(b) The local boards from whom replies have been received are generally in favour of the scheme, but many of them are opposed to the levy of the additional taxation which forms an integral part of it.

(c) No.

Municipal Councils

Appointment of Mr. J. D. Ryan as acting Municipal Engineer of Trichinopoly Municipality.

* 1490 Q.—Mr. C. D. APPAYU CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether Mr. J. D. Ryan was appointed as acting Municipal Engineer of Trichinopoly Municipality by the Municipal Council on 5th September 1927;

(b) how many applications were received for the post;

(c) how many of such applicants were fully qualified;

(d) whether Mr. J. D. Ryan was fully qualified for the post;

(e) if not qualified, what made the Municipal Council, Trichinopoly, appoint him as the Municipal Engineer, Trichinopoly, in preference to others better qualified;

(f) whether it is a fact that Mr. Ryan had applied for the A.M.I.C.E. and A.M.I.M.E., etc., examinations as stated in one of his printed cards; if so, whether he sat for the examinations and with what result;

(g) whether he was ever employed in Madras and if so, what are the reasons for his leaving the job;

(h) whether there were complaints of criminal breach of trust against him; and

(i) whether the Government have any intention of approving the appointment of such a candidate?

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A.—(a) Yes.

(b) About forty.

(c) No information.

(d) No.

(e) The Government have no knowledge of the reasons which actuated the Council.

(f), (g) & (h) The Government have no information.

(i) The matter is under consideration.

*Reconsideration of the Government Order regarding the appointment of
Mr. J. D. Ryan.*

* 1491 Q.—MR. C. D. APPAVU CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government propose to reconsider their previous order, G.O. No. 4012, L. & M., dated 18th October 1927, vetoing the appointment of Mr. J. D. Ryan as Engineer, Municipal Council, Trichinopoly; and

(b) what are the special reasons which made the Municipal Council, Trichinopoly, request the Government to reconsider the order disapproving his appointment?

A.—(a) & (b) The matter is under the consideration of Government.

*Nomination of Sourashtras to the Palamcottah and Conjeeveram
Municipal Councils.*

* 1492 Q.—MR. L. K. TULASIRAM: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is at present any member of the Sourashtra community in the Municipal Councils of Palamcottah, Periyakulam and Conjeeveram either elected or nominated;

(b) whether there has been any member of this community in any one of these municipal councils since 1920; if so, in what council and for what period;

(c) what is the proportion of the Indian Christian community to the total population of the Palamcottah Municipality;

(d) how many Indian Christian members now on the Palamcottah Municipal Council are elected and how many are nominated;

(e) what is the total number of elected members of the Palamcottah Municipal Council;

(f) what is the proportion of the Sourashtra community in Palamcottah to the total population of that town; and

(g) whether the Government will consider the desirability of nominating a member of the Sourashtra community on the Palamcottah and Conjeeveram Municipal Councils at least in the next vacancies?

A.—(a) There is no nominated councillor of the Sourashtra community at present on any of the three municipal councils mentioned. The Government have no information as to whether there is any elected councillor of that community on those councils.